

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 13321 101548Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13
SSM-03 ACDA-07 MCE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /097 W
-----072658 101617Z /47

O 101518Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8184
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
RUEHLHWXAMCONSUL JERSUSALEM IMMEDIATE 1389
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 13321

JERSUALEM FOR SEC'S PARTY

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: EG, IS
SUBJ: EGYPTIAN MEDIA ON US ARMS SUPPLY

REF (A) CAIRO 12712, (B) CAIRO 13227, (C) CAIRO 13014,

1. AFTER INITIAL HEADLINES JULY 29 (REF A), LOCAL PRESS HAS
LARGELY IGNORED PENDING US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT.
SADAT'S PRAISE OF INTENDED SALE OF C-130'S AND SOPHISTI-
CATED ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT IN AUG 8 SPEECH TO AIR FORCE
OFFICERS (REF B) RECEIVED LITTLE MEDIA PLAY AND ELICITED NO
EDITORIAL COMMENT. FIRST EDITION AUG 10 AHRAH CONTAINED
PAGE ONE ACCOUNT THAT US PREPARED SELL EGYPT 12 PILOTLESS
SURVEILLANCE HELICOPTERS (SIC), APPARENT REFERENCE TO RE-
CONNAISSANCE DRONES. STORY DELETED FROM LATER EDITIONS;
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NOT CARRIED IN OTHER PAPERS.

2. MIG REFIT. DEPT WILL RECALL THAT INITIAL MIG 21 REFIT
STORY ALLEGING US INVOLVEMENT RECEIVED MINOR ATTENTION,
BEING CARRIED ONLY BY LITTLE-READ ENGLISH EGYPTIAN GAZETTE
(REF C). IN AUG 8 SPEECH SADAT MADE PASSING REF TO CONCEPT
WITHOUT MENTIONING US. HE SAID: "I BELIEVE THAT WE ARE

ON OUR WAY TO DOING ALL THE (MIG 21) OVERHAULING HERE IN
EGYPT, GOD WILLING. YOU KNOW THIS AND THERE IS NO NEED
FOR GOING INTO DETAILS."

3. COMMENT: GOE CLEARLY HOLDING DOWN PUBLIC DEBATE ON POSSIBLE
US MILITARY ASSISTANCE, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE IT NOT YET CERTAIN
CONGRESS WILL APPROVE \$200 MILLION PACKAGE AND BECAUSE IT
IS RELATIVELY MODEST AMOUNT VIS-A-VIS EGYPTIAN NEEDS.
NOTABLE THAT SADAT'S ONLY PUBLIC REFERENCE TO US MILITARY SUPPLY
MADE TO AUDIENCE MOST CONCERNED ABOUT DETERIORATING EQUIPMENT,
AIR FORCE OFFICERS.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO13321
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770287-1318
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770878/aaaacocc.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a0d3305d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CAIRO 12712, 77 CAIRO 13227, 77 CAIRO 13014
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1651473
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EGYPTIAN MEDIA ON US ARMS SUPPLY
TAGS: MASS, EG, IS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a0d3305d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009